(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, there is no proposal to extend Bilaspur-Bhopal Express upto Bhubaneswar.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Safety related training

2177. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the action taken to upgrade safety related training facilities in Railways and implementation of anti-collision device on major Railway Zones for customer satisfaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): All staff, including safety category staff, is properly trained before utilization of newly acquired technological aids is adopted. The Railways are in the continuous process of modifying and refreshing the training of Railway staff to update their knowledge and skill. A comprehensive training need analysis of all categories of staff is being done through series of meetings. Based on the analysis, training modules are revised to suit the training requirement of individual staff besides changes in technology, work practices and objectives of the job.

All Major training centres are being provided with funds under SRSF for providing training aids, models, teaching kits, etc.

In order to attract able and talented instructors, incentive in the form of Training Allowance' is granted and they are permitted to retain quarters at their previous place of posting for a period of two years.

A separate unit is being set up for training techniques and instrtuctional designs at Gwalior which will be entrusted the job of development of lesson plans, training modules, etc.

Provision of Anti Collision Device (ACD) on about 1800 Route Kilometers of Broad Gauge Section of Northeast Frontier Railway is in

progress and shall be completed in the year 2004-05. Further works of provision on about 1750 Route Kilometers has also been sanctioned on Northern, Southern, South Central and South Western Railways. ACD survey works on Northern and South Central Railways has been completed and on Southern and South Western Railway, it is in progress. The work of provision of ACD shall be taken in hand on these sections after successful implementation of ACD on Northeast Frontier Railway. Works of ACD survey on additional 10000 Route Kilometer has further been sanctioned during the current year.

Import of locomotives

2178. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the eighteen 6000 HP WAG-6 locomotives were imported by Government and the cost thereof;

(b) whether periodical overhaul of these locos could not be undertaken resulting in premature stabling leading to a loss of Rs. 77.37 crore towards their earning capacity;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether an amount of Rs. 18.43 crore was also lost on account of avoidable procurement of stores; and

(e) if so, the facts and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Indian Railways had procured 18 Nos. prototype WAG-6 6000 H.P. Electric Locomotives (six WAG 6-B type and six WAG 6-C type from M/s Sumitomo Corporation, Japan and six WAG 6-A type from M/s ABB, Sweden). The locomotives were received in the year 1988. FOB (Free on Board) price of the locomotives was Japanese Yen 5,278,370,600 and Swedish Kroner 133,384,570 respectively. The total FOB cost of these locomotives was Rs. 88 crore (approx.).

(b) to (e) No, Sir. Due to the less number of these prototype locomotives, the periodic overhaul (POH) of the WAG-6 locomotives has been delayed due to non-availability of all required spares. Two WAG-6A locomotives and four WAG-6C type locomotives have since undergone their POH and are in service from 1.4.2003. POH on two